

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A system for hiring a taxi, comprising a handy terminal, a receiver equipped in a taxi, and a calculator,

5       said handy terminal having functions of detecting a current position of itself through GPS (Global Positioning System), and transmitting a request to said receiver of a taxi located in the vicinity of said handy terminal that said taxi comes to said handy terminal,

10       said calculator calculating an arrival time at which said taxi is expected to arrive at said handy terminal, based on said current position of said handy terminal and a current position of said taxi.

2. The system as set forth in claim 1, wherein said calculator is equipped in said handy terminal.

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3. The system as set forth in claim 1, further comprising a taxi-data server storing therein data relating to said taxi,

      said handy terminal having a function of displaying said taxi data transmitted from said taxi-data server.

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4. The system as set forth in claim 3, wherein said taxi data includes at least one of a current position of said taxi, a fare of said taxi, an age of a driver of said taxi, years for which a driver of said taxi continues service, comments of said driver, and comments of a user who previously took said taxi.

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5. The system as set forth in claim 3, wherein said handy terminal displays a plurality of said taxi data therein such that a user of said handy terminal can select a taxi among displayed taxis, based on said plurality of said taxi data.

6. The system as set forth in claim 3, wherein said handy terminal downloads said taxi data from said taxi-data server thereto through a packet network, a packet network gateway and Internet.

5        7. The system as set forth in claim 3, wherein said handy terminal downloads said taxi data from said taxi-data server thereto through a cellular phone network, an access point of an Internet service provider (ISP) and Internet.

10       8. The system as set forth in claim 3, further comprising a memory storing data of taxis which users used to hire, and wherein said calculator receives a current position of a taxi which a user of the handy terminal selects among said taxis, from said taxi-data server, and calculates an arrival time at which said selected taxi is expected to arrive at said handy terminal, based on a current  
15       position of said handy terminal and said current position of said taxi.

9. The system as set forth in claim 1, wherein said handy terminal receives, after transmission of said request to said receiver, at least one of a current position of said handy terminal and a current position of said taxi at real-time.

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10. The system as set forth in claim 4, wherein said taxi-data server receives comments of a user of said handy terminal about a taxi which said user hired, through Internet.

25       11. The system as set forth in claim 1, wherein said handy terminal includes a transmitter transmitting data of a destination to said receiver when said handy terminal transmits said request to said receiver.

12. The system as set forth in claim 1, wherein said handy terminal includes

a memory storing therein data of a route which a taxi a user of said handy terminal hired ran.

13. The system as set forth in claim 1, wherein said handy terminal is  
5 comprised of a cellular phone.

14. The system as set forth in claim 1, further comprising a map-data server storing therein data about a map of an area covering from a current position of said taxi to a current position of said handy terminal, and data about speed  
10 restriction of roads in said area,  
said handy terminal receiving said data from said map-data server.

15. A handy terminal used in a system for hiring a taxi, said system being comprised of said handy terminal and a receiver equipped in a taxi,  
15 said handy terminal having functions of detecting a current position of itself through GPS (Global Positioning System), and transmitting a request to said receiver equipped in a taxi located in the vicinity of said handy terminal that said taxi comes to said handy terminal,  
said handy terminal including a calculator calculating an arrival time at  
20 which said taxi is expected to arrive at said handy terminal, based on said current position of said handy terminal and a current position of said taxi.

16. The handy terminal as set forth in claim 15, wherein said system further includes a taxi-data server storing therein data relating to said taxi, and wherein  
25 said handy terminal has a function of displaying said taxi data transmitted from said taxi-data server.

17. The handy terminal as set forth in claim 16, wherein said handy terminal displays a plurality of said taxi data such that a user of said handy

terminal can select a taxi among displayed taxis, based on said plurality of said taxi data.

18. The handy terminal as set forth in claim 16, wherein said handy  
5 terminal downloads said taxi data from said taxi-data server thereto through a packet network, a packet network gateway and Internet.

19. The handy terminal as set forth in claim 16, wherein said handy  
10 terminal downloads said taxi data from said taxi-data server thereto through a cellular phone network, an access point of an Internet service provider (ISP) and Internet.

20. The handy terminal as set forth in claim 16, further comprising a  
memory storing data of taxis which other users used to hire, said calculator  
15 receiving a current position of a taxi which a user of the handy terminal selects among said taxis, from said taxi-data server, and calculating an arrival time at which said selected taxi is expected to arrive at said handy terminal, based on a current position of said handy terminal and said current position of said taxi.

20 21. The handy terminal as set forth in claim 15, wherein said handy terminal receives, after transmission of said request to said receiver, at least one of a current position of said handy terminal and a current position of said taxi at real-time.

25 22. The handy terminal as set forth in claim 15, further including a transmitter transmitting data of a destination to said receiver when said handy terminal transmits said request to said receiver.

23. The handy terminal as set forth in claim 15, further including a memory

storing therein data of a route which a taxi a user of said handy terminal hired ran.

24. The handy terminal as set forth in claim 15, wherein said handy  
5 terminal is comprised of a cellular phone.

25. A method of hiring a taxi by transmitting a request from a user's handy terminal to a receiver equipped in a taxi located in the vicinity of said handy terminal that said taxi comes to said handy terminal, comprising:

10 (a) detecting a current position of said handy terminal through GPS (Global Positioning System); and

(b) calculating an arrival time at which said taxi is expected to arrive at said handy terminal, based on said current position of said handy terminal and a current position of said taxi.

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26. The method as set forth in claim 25, further comprising:

(c) receiving data relating to said taxi from a taxi-data server; and

(d) displaying said taxi data in said handy terminal.

20 27. The method as set forth in claim 26, wherein said handy terminal displays a plurality of said taxi data in said (d) such that a user of said handy terminal can select a taxi among displayed taxis, based on said plurality of said taxi data.

25 28. The method as set forth in claim 26, further comprising downloading said taxi data from said taxi-data server to said handy terminal through a packet network, a packet network gateway and Internet.

29. The method as set forth in claim 26, further comprising downloading

said taxi data from said taxi-data server to said handy terminal through a cellular phone network, an access point of an Internet service provider (ISP) and Internet.

5        30. The method as set forth in claim 26, further comprising:  
storing data of taxis which users used to hire; and  
receiving a current position of a taxi which a user of the handy terminal  
selects among said taxis, from said taxi-data server.

10       31. The method as set forth in claim 26, further comprising transmitting  
comments of a user of said handy terminal about a taxi which said user hired, to  
said taxi-data server through Internet.

15       32. The method as set forth in claim 25, further comprising transmitting  
data of a destination to said receiver when said handy terminal transmits said  
request to said receiver.

20       33. The method as set forth in claim 25, further comprising storing therein  
data of a route which a taxi a user of said handy terminal hired ran.

25       34. A program for causing a computer to carry out a method of hiring a taxi  
by transmitting a request from a user's handy terminal to a receiver equipped in  
a taxi located in the vicinity of said handy terminal that said taxi comes to said  
handy terminal, and wherein steps executed by said computer in accordance with  
said program include:

(a) detecting a current position of said handy terminal through GPS (Global  
Positioning System); and

(b) calculating an arrival time at which said taxi is expected to arrive at said  
handy terminal, based on said current position of said handy terminal and a

current position of said taxi.

35. The program as set forth in claim 34, wherein said steps further include:

(c) receiving data relating to said taxi from a taxi-data server; and

5 (d) displaying said taxi data in said handy terminal.

36. The program as set forth in claim 34, wherein a plurality of said taxi data is displayed in said (d) such that a user of said handy terminal can select a taxi among displayed taxis, based on said plurality of said taxi data.

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37. The program as set forth in claim 34, wherein said steps further include downloading said taxi data from said taxi-data server to said handy terminal through a packet network, a packet network gateway and Internet.

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38. The program as set forth in claim 34, wherein said steps further include downloading said taxi data from said taxi-data server to said handy terminal through a cellular phone network, an access point of an Internet service provider (ISP) and Internet.

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39. The program as set forth in claim 34, wherein said steps further include: storing data of taxis which users used to hire; and

receiving a current position of a taxi which a user of the handy terminal selects among said taxis, from said taxi-data server.

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40. The program as set forth in claim 35, wherein said steps further include transmitting comments of a user of said handy terminal about a taxi which said user hired, to said taxi-data server through Internet.

41. The program as set forth in claim 34, wherein said steps further include

transmitting data of a destination to said receiver when said handy terminal transmits said request to said receiver.

42. The program as set forth in claim 34, wherein said steps further include  
5 storing therein data of a route which a taxi a user of said handy terminal hired ran.